

Village of Canal Winchester
36 South High Street
Canal Winchester, OH 43110-1213

Finance Committee Meeting
February 4th, 2008
5:45 PM

Minutes

Call to order: Chairman Deeds called the meeting to order at 5:50pm

Roll Call: Present for roll call was Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Paini and Ms. Mershon.
Also in attendance: Mayor Miller, Nanisa Osborn (Finance Director) and Christopher Strayer (Development Director).

Pended Items: None at this time

New Items for Discussion

1-08 AN ORDINANCE DETERMINING THE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER FEE TO BE PAID BY A VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER OFFERING VIDEO SERVICE IN THE VILLAGE PURSUANT TO A STATE AUTHORIZATION; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE FEE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Nanisa Osborn stated that in the summer of 2007 the State of Ohio passed a law that allows cable companies to get a franchise fee that serves the entire state of Ohio instead of franchise fees for individual communities. This law provides for existing franchise agreements to be exited, as well as Service Providers without franchise agreements to get ones that are state-wide. The law is very specific that communities can still collect their franchise fees, but they must pass a Video Service Provider fee ordinance.

This ordinance is the required state license and sets the Video Service Provider fee at 5%, which is the state maximum.

Currently the Village of Canal Winchester has two separate Video Service Provider fees. Insight Cable's fee is 4% of base revenue and expired in 2006. WOW's fee is 5% of all revenue. Together, the Village of Canal Winchester collects approximately \$18,000 a year from these fees.

Mr. Deeds asked Nanisa to explain the need to invoke an emergency. Ms. Osborn answered that it was because AT&T is invoking their state-wide franchise by March 1st, 2008 and if the legislation is not in place at that time, we will not be able to collect those fees from AT&T customers.

A discussion of Insight's fee and expired contract ensued.

Ms. Mershon moved to take this ordinance to Council. Mr. Jarvis seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Ms. Mershon, Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Paini**
 NAYS:

Motion carried and Mrs. Mershon will sponsor the ordinance.

2-08 PROPERTY CASUALTY LIABILITY COVERAGE FOR THE VILLAGE. CURRENT COVERAGE IS THROUGH WICHERT INSURANCE AGENCY AND SELECTIVE INSURANCE. Wichert Insurance Agency has been the Village insurance carrier for a number of years and their service is impeccable. I have been contacted by a number of carriers who wish to bid for the Village coverage. Is Council interested in putting this out as an RFP for Insurance? Our coverage expires on May 1, 2008 so if we plan to request proposals we must do so promptly.

Ms. Osborn states the casualty liability insurance renews each year on May 1st. The coverage was bid three years ago and the current insurance company was the only company that bid. It is once again time to renew. This ordinance would allow this coverage to be bid out instead of directly renewed with the current company.

Mr. Deeds asked what the approximate increase would be. Ms. Osborn replied that last year's increase was 1 ½%. There have been some property additions for the upcoming year, for example, the property at Hanner's Field and the street lights, which may increase the premium.

Mr. Jarvis moved that this contract not be bid out. Mrs. Mershon seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Ms. Mershon, Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Paini
NAYS:

Motion carried.

3-08 AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL EXISTING CHAPTER 713 OF THE VILLAGE CODE, TO ADOPT NEW CHAPTER 713 OF THE VILLAGE CODE REGARDING PEDDLERS AND SOLICITORS, TO ESTABLISH PEDDLERS AND SOLICITORS REGISTRATION PROCESS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Osborn explained that the current legislation states that you can't solicit in the Village of Canal Winchester unless you get a permit and sets the permit fee at \$10 per day. It doesn't distinguish between a solicitor and a peddler and it does not address non-profit agencies.

This legislation would be more specific, set formal regulations and would allow a background check be done on those requesting a permit. Ms. Osborn states that she is not as concerned about a fee, but about being allowed to do some type of background check on these people before issuing a permit.

This legislation would also limit hours of solicitation and would prohibit soliciting on holidays and Sundays. It would also put in place a penalty on those not following the regulations. It would make failure to get a soliciting permit or failure to comply with regulations a misdemeanor in the forth degree. An example of the registration form was handed out.

Mr. Jarvis asked if the applicant would be told in advance that a background check would be part of the application process. Ms. Osborn answered that it would be stated very specifically on the application that a background investigation would take place, that they are required to have insurance and they are required to sign liability waivers.

Mr. Deeds requested that the term "Holidays" be further defined in the ordinance.

Mr. Jarvis made a motion that this be moved to full council. Mrs. Mershon seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Ms. Mershon, Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Paini**
NAYS:

Motion carried. Mr. Jarvis will sponsor the ordinance

Development Director's Report:

Christopher Strayer and Allan Neimayer met with Byers Auto a few months ago to propose a used car dealership in the former Wendy's site. They were notified that it would be an uphill battle and encouraged to go to the Planning Commission for their input before they spent any money on it. There was an informal hearing with Planning Commission where Byers was told the proposal wasn't the best use of the property, but that they could go through the process. At a subsequent meeting, the Planning Commission denied the rezoning application.

This will be a busy year for Canal Winchester. Approximately 70 acres of retail will be coming this year as well as the new hospital.

The Meijer out lots will not go out for sale until 2009, however the 35 acre development north of the Meijer's site will be back at the Planning Commission next week looking for approval in the spring of 2008.

The 4th phase of the industrial park off of Dove Parkway will be opening soon. They are in the engineering stages of the roadway, but waiting on the land transfer. The roadway will go in during the summer.

Winchester Farms will be back at the next meeting for the third reading and are hoping to start construction this spring.

Mr. Strayer is completing a Buxton Study, a retail analysis, for the community. It will take the demographic information and spending habits in a 15 minute drive time area around the town, boils it down to numbers that can be applied to site selection criteria used by retailers. This will be advantageous at the Retail Trade Show in May. The finalized report will be ready in approximately 30 days.

Finance Director's Report: Nothing at this time

Other Business:

Mrs. Mershon moved to adjourn this meeting of the finance committee and was seconded by Mr. Deeds.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Ms. Mershon, Mr. Deeds, Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Paini**
NAYS:

Meeting adjourned at 6:24P.M.